DTC dismissed from service for participating in the strike during March, 1988;

(b) the number of employees reinstated in service so far; and

(c) the reasons for not reinstating the remaining employees and when they are likely to be reinstated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 3,125 employees.

(b) 2,956 employees.

(c) The remaining dismissed employees did not submit applications for reinstatement.

Value of Rupee

4262. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the present value of a rupee taking 1971 as base year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): The value of Indian rupee measured as the reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Industrial workers on base 1971 works out to 18.5 paise in June, 1991 (latest available).

World Bank Assistance for Development of Sivakasi

4263. Dr. R. KANAGA GOVINDARAJULU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any World Bank assistance has been given to the Government of Tamil Nadu for development of Sivakasi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the projects to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Development Credit Agreement for IDA Credit equivalent to $ 300.2 million has been signed on 16-9-1988 with World Bank for implementation of Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project. The project includes the components of sites and services, slum improvement programme, traffic management and transport. The Project also finances a municipal urban development fund to support municipal services through financing of equipment and civil works for the maintenance and delivery of services like water supply, road, storm water drainage, solid waste management, market, shops, public health, truck terminals and bus stands, road construction etc. Sivakasi is one of the local bodies which has access to the fund for provision of these municipal services.

[Translation]

Loans for Agro-Based Industries in Ratnagiri District (Maharashtra)

4264. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks provide loan upto seventy five per cent to the agro-based industries;

(b) if so, the number of applicants to whom loans have been sanctioned for dairy development and poultry farming in the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra; and

(c) the number of applications rejected by the nationalised banks and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that loans and advances granted by banks to agro-based industries which are eligible to classified as small scale industries, are inter-alia, treated as priority sectora advances and such advances qualify for liberal margin requirements. In terms of existing instructions of RBI, no margin is to be taken by banks for credit limit upto and inclusive of Rs. 25,000. For credit limits over Rs. 25,000 a margin of 15% to 25% is taken depending on the purpose and quantum of loan.

(b) and (c) The data reporting system of the RBI does not yield district-wise data on the number of applications rejected. However, district-wise data on the number of applicants to whom loans have been sanctioned by the nationalised banks for dairy development and poultry farming in Ratnagiri district are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Per Capita Amount of Central Grant to Orissa

4265. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government to increase the per capita amount of Central grant to the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa has been requesting from time to time for allocation of increased Central assistance to the State. The quantum of Central assistance to be given to the various States including Orissa is determined by the Planning Commission within the overall amounts earmarked for this purpose and on the basis of criteria like modified Gadgil Formula, etc. As such it has not been possible to accede to the request of Government of Orissa for an increase in Central assistance.

[English]

Opening of New Branches of Nationalised Banks in Ratnagiri (Maharashtra)

4266. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open new branches of nationalised banks in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the places where these branches will be opened in the above district bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Opening of branches of nationalised banks under the extant branch licensing policy (1990-95) is a continuous process, which is governed by licences issued by Reserve Bank of India in this regard. Hence, at this stage it is not possible to project the number of branches of banks that will be opened in Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra.